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A Weekly Review of Politics & Literature

Blue Book Supplement

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THE NATURE AND USE OF BLUE BOOKS

By A. L. Bowley, Sc.D.

GOVERNMENT publications may be divided into three classes: periodic issues, reports on special subjects, and reports of committees and commissions. The reading and the use of each class need special experience, as each is governed by complicated and unstable conventions, based on traditions which may be supposed to be communicated secretly to the civil servant on his admission to the permanent staff. The periodic issues include the annual report or reports of the Departments and Boards on the general business committed to their charge, and accounts (mainly statistical) of special business, the annual abstracts of home, colonial, and foreign statistics, gazettes and journals of more frequent appearance, and the decennial publications of the Registrar-Generals; perhaps we should add the quinquennial census of production. Till recent years it was the general custom to turn out the reports in severely statistical form without explanation; and since definition of terms is the essence of statistics (for without it they are meaningless totals) it would generally have been better in the interests of truth that they should have been withheld from the few members of the public who referred to them.

During the last decade, owing to the continually growing interest in industrial and social affairs, and in particular to the fiscal controversy, some of the weaknesses and pitfalls of periodic statistics have become known; many of the departments have taken considerable pains to explain the meaning of their reports, and, where it proved that they had no meaning, to recast them. Deliberate obscurantism has its last refuge in the annual report of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Inland Revenue, who successfully conceal the information as to the nature and distribution of income that they are obtaining in consequence of the Finance Act of 1909-10, and change nearly every year the meaning of some of their principal categories. With the secrecy characteristic of Treasury Boards the account of Old Age Pensions is hidden at the end of the report of the Board of Customs and Excise. The convention common to all departments has been that every statement in a Blue Book is true, sufficient, and complete; but that this is a pure convention may be seen by an instance of the varying quality of these official facts. In the 57th number of the Statistical Abstract the amount of imported "Corn, Grain, Wheat, etc.": "retained for Home Consumption per Head of the Total Population of the United Kingdom" is stated as 242·93 lbs. in the year 1909; in the 59th Number the figure for 1909 is amended to 245·61. The casual reader would not realise that the alteration was due to the revision of the estimate of population in consequence of the 1911 census.

The Statistical Abstract is at once the most useful and the most dangerous of the periodic publications. From the legitimate desire to keep the volume compact and handy, the explanations as to the genesis, nature, and limitations of the various tables, which can be found in the better of the modern reports from which it is abstracted, are suppressed. The result is that the Abstract can only be safely used, as a book of reference, by those who know from the original reports the exact meaning and content of the terms used; that, for example, Old Age Pensions were till last year included under "Miscellaneous Civil Services," that the country of consignment of imports is not necessarily the country of origin, and so on. Each group of tables has its own technique, and this technique can only be learnt by reference to a *series* of the annual reports relating to it, with a comparative study of the introduction and of the headlines and footnotes of the tables. Each table has a long and, in some cases, interesting history of its own; it has been modified by the force of circumstances, and the change of the phenomena to which it relates; the compilers have had to compromise continually between the need for exact comparability and the need for presenting the facts in their modern relations. The difficulties arising from the change of boundaries and in the classification of occupations in the census illustrate how great the changes are when they are observed at intervals of ten years. Between successive annual reports the changes are smaller, and their cumulative effect is in danger of being ignored. When

experience has once been obtained of the organic nature of a particular series of totals, the Statistical Abstract can be used for observing its change.

Similar remarks apply to the Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics; but this needs even more caution because it is comparatively new, and a considerable number of the measurements it gives are hardly yet in their final form. The percentage of Unemployment, for example, has frequently slightly changed its basis. Owing to the great practical difficulties of measuring prices, wages, and employment, to which a great part of the Abstract relates, the reader is specially at the mercy of the compiler, who has a great choice of definitions to work from. Where the tables are simple recapitulations, it is easy to refer to the originals; in some other cases it is necessary and sufficient to look through a file of the *Labour Gazette*, with special attention to the summarising articles of the January issue; in others—for example, the extremely difficult, misleading, and misunderstood tables of the general change of wages—the computations appear to be made *ad hoc*, and have not been elaborated in any other report. It will be found that most of the periodic statistics of general interest are summarised in either the Statistical Abstract or the Labour Abstract, with sufficient references to enable their genesis to be traced.

The occasional reports on special subjects vary greatly in their interest and their adequacy. They generally take the form of a dedicatory letter from one official to another, a report carefully adapted to what the department believes to be the intelligence of the average Member of Parliament, and an appendix containing the information collected. The more candid reports show faithfully the limitations of their data, and the best give estimates showing how far unavoidable omissions may be expected to affect the results. Most of them explain the method of inquiry, and give copies of the blank schedules used. Even in these cases it is very important to form first an independent judgment of the problems with which the reports deal, of the minimum information which is necessary for their proper handling, and of the possibility of obtaining these minima by the methods used; then one may see whether the inquiry has been on lines of possible success, whether the whole field has been covered, and whether the summary tables give adequate answers to practical questions. This kind of independent criticism is specially necessary when the report deals with social and working-class questions. For example, the reports on the wages of Agricultural Labourers contain no information as to individuals, but only rough district averages.

The volumes accompanying the Reports of Commissions and Committees supply better reading than is generally supposed; they resemble "The Ring and the Book" alike in their length and minuteness, and in the presentation of the way a problem appears to various observers who form part of it. It is often between the lines of the verbatim evidence that real sociological information is to be found; but the conscientious student should also rake carefully through the Appendices in the hope of finding precious matter. Some of the most important documents in industrial history are in the Appendices of the Royal Commission on Trade Depression of 1886.

The Blue Book Supplement is one of the regular features of The New Statesman. Except in the holiday season, when little or no publishing is going on, it will appear each month. Readers who care to file the succeeding issues of this Supplement will have in a convenient form **a complete list of all Parliamentary Publications** in addition to the descriptive notices of the more important.

MARRIAGE AND THE BIRTH-RATE

Census of England and Wales, 1911. Vol. VII. Ages and Condition as to Marriage. Cd. 6610. 4s. 11d.

In the Census of 1911 the ages of the population have for the first time been tabulated separately for each year of life, and the distribution, together with the marriage condition, is shown in Tables 1 to 7 for England and Wales and for the aggregates of administrative counties, county boroughs, urban districts, and rural districts respectively, and for London. Table 8 gives the age distribution for each year under 21 and in quinquennial age-groups for the several administrative areas, and covers 197 pages. Tables 9 and 10 deal in less detail with marriage condition in administrative areas. Tables 11 and 12 give the ages and marriage condition in registration counties and districts. Tables 13 to 15 give the same information for workhouses, asylums, and prisons, and Table 16 deals with indefinite Returns. Tables 18 and 19 show the age and sex constitution of each administrative county, county borough, and large town. Tables 20 to 26 provide summary comparisons with previous censuses, and Tables 27 and 28 give the proportions unmarried, married, and widowed in each sex per 1,000 of each sex over 20 in each administrative county and county borough. These will afford abundant material for investigators of vital statistics and economic circumstances, but a wider interest may be claimed for the 38 pages of introductory report, which should be read by all politicians and students of social questions. So great is its importance that the Registrar-General would do well to re-issue it as a separate paper, and so make it accessible to thousands who have not the money to buy or the time to explore this large volume.

More than one-tenth of the total population is under five years of age, more than one-fifth under ten, nearly two-fifths under 20, nearly one-half between 20 and 55, and a little more than one-tenth over 55. The fall in the birth-rate which began in 1877 is now showing its effects in a serious fall in the proportion of children. For each million at all ages in 1881 there were 135,551 children under five; in 1911 there were only 106,857. The proportions of older children have also lessened, though naturally to a smaller degree. As a result there has been an increased proportion of persons at all other ages, but "it is evident that if the fall in the birth-rate continues, a further decrease may be expected in childhood and early adult life, with a compensating further increase in the proportion living at higher ages. The future age-constitution of our population, in fact, may be expected to approximate more or less to that of France." England has a larger proportion of young adults than France, Germany, Sweden, or Holland, and fewer children than any of these countries except France. "It may be pointed out that though the effect of the fall in the birth-rate has hitherto been in a sense temporarily advantageous in that it has increased the proportions living at the working ages, a tendency to the reversal of this effect has already set in and may be expected to develop as time goes on," since with the lapse of time relatively fewer recruits come forward into each age-group. "These fluctuations are not without importance in their bearing upon the probable future proportion in our population of workers at the most economically efficient ages, and especially upon the supply of recruits to the military services in future years." "Not without importance"! Rather they contain within them a most grievous threat to the absolute and relative position of England in the world, even to her very existence. Fortunately, the birth-rate is not the only, though it is the most dramatic, cause affecting the age-constitution of the population. The decline in the death-rate, especially at ages beyond adolescence, and migration are also important in their results. The first conclusion that the earnest politician will draw is that efficient means must be adopted to reduce the present terribly excessive wastage of child-life, and the second that prospects in the home country should be made more attractive to our young people than the chances offered by emigration. How urgent the health problem is may be seen from the Tables which demonstrate that, though there is a deficiency in births in rural compared with urban districts, this is soon compensated by the greater healthiness of the former.

Space will not allow of more than a reference to the exceedingly interesting analysis of the age-constitution of different areas and different types of the population, and of the trend of migration. Males begin to flow into the towns from the rural districts at about the age of 20, but females go from an age between 15 and 20, owing to the demand for young domestic servants. Particularly interesting is it to contrast two groups of areas—one mining and metal-working, the other textile. The former shows, relatively to the country as a whole, an excess of children, and excess of males up to 50, a deficiency of females and old people, the factors

being a high birth-rate and death-rate, little female labour, and immigration of young men. The latter shows an excess both of males and females throughout the working period of life, and deficiency in childhood and old age. "The most striking feature of this group is the low proportion of children, along with the high proportions of adults of fertile ages, the latter not being, as in the case of females in the residential areas, largely cut off from married life within the areas in question. The conclusion seems inevitable that the abundance of industrial employment for women in these towns leads to their low birth-rates."

EGYPT—LORD KITCHENER'S SURVEY

Reports by His Majesty's Agent and Consul-General on the Finances, Administration, and Condition of Egypt and the Sudan in 1912. Cd. 6682. 7d.

Lord Kitchener's Annual Report on Egypt is itself so condensed a summary that it is difficult to summarise it further. Those who have business or financial interests in the country know what to expect in it—a business-like account of the year's progress in finance, agriculture, public works, education, justice, public security, and public health. But to those whose interest in the affairs of Egypt is of a general character it will be more useful to outline the policy which lies behind the Report.

This may be expressed in a single phrase as the economic salvation of the *fellaheen*, the peasant proprietors or agricultural labourers, who are the backbone of the country. Firm repression of all political agitation or sectarian disturbance is only the first condition of progress in Egypt. The next is equally firm and paternal guidance of the *fellaheen* in those paths of progress which a benevolent autocracy decides to be for their good. For there is no use mincing matters—the present policy in Egypt is to give the people what is good for them, whether they know it or not, and Lord Kitchener knows better than most people what is likely to be good for the *fellaheen*. His application of that policy may be seen in several far-reaching reforms which he has already introduced and pressed forward with characteristic determination. His first care has been to rescue the cotton crop from the unsatisfactory condition into which it had fallen in recent years, as shown by the deterioration both in quantity and in quality. The great agricultural drainage schemes in the Delta are the necessary complement of the water supply project, which has reached another stage in the raising of Assuan Dam and will now be still further pushed on by equally important schemes for the regulation of the upper reaches of the Nile. These incidentally will make it possible to extend to the Sudan the increased water supply for which it has had to wait fifteen years.

It is not enough, however, to place the necessary conditions of prosperity within reach of the *fellaheen*. They must be saved from themselves, and rescued from the exploitation of the money-lenders and the less scrupulous middlemen of all kinds who flourish upon their simplicity. Government seed-distribution, government *halaqas* for the sale of cotton, government experimental farms, government measures for the prevention and treatment of cotton pests, have all alike had to be gently forced upon the unwilling and suspicious minds of the *fellaheen*. Government savings-banks have been instituted to provide means of thrift less dangerous than the traditional hole in the ground: but again it is not sufficient to provide facilities. The much-discussed Five Feddan Law, which practically forbids the owner of less than five feddans (acres) to borrow on the security of his holding, is a very drastic measure indeed. There is little doubt of its wisdom, and even of its ultimate success, but the transition from the old order is causing considerable hardship and difficulty. Some system of agricultural credit on co-operative lines seems a necessary complement to the scheme.

What the Report does not record—though those who know the country will read it between the lines—is how all these reforms have been pushed through against every difficulty by the steady force of a man who knows what he wants and is determined to get it. It is no exaggeration to say that there is no other man who could have done in so short a time so much to remedy old grievances which others had seen, but which no one before had the power or the courage to tackle. Probably no one but Lord Kitchener could have preserved the peace so completely in Egypt through two wars in which Turkey (to which, after all, Egypt still belongs) was engaged in a life-and-death struggle, and enforced a state of real neutrality. There are still many things in the political, economic, and social condition of Egypt which will provide further material for Lord Kitchener's reforming zeal. The Capitulations and the Mixed Courts, the prevalence of crime in the provinces, the system of the native courts and other semi-religious organisations, are already under observation or treatment.

THE FINANCE OF HOME RULE

Minutes of Evidence taken by the Committee on Irish Finance, with Appendices. Cd. 6799. 2s.

Government of Ireland Bill: Memorandum on Financial Provisions, 1913. Cd. 6844. 1d.

The Committee on Irish Finance met during the spring and summer of 1911, under the chairmanship of Sir Henry Primrose, in order to collect information for the use of the Government in connection with the third, or present, Home Rule Bill. Its report, an interesting document, recommended that an Irish Parliament should have complete control of Irish taxation, and noted, in parenthesis, that even if no change were to be made in the political relations of great Britain and Ireland, the financial relations of the two countries urgently demanded revision. The Government failed to act upon the advice of the Committee in regard to the financial clauses of the Bill; which fact, coupled with the delay in publishing the evidence taken in 1911, caused the Unionist Party to attach a great deal of mystery to the whole subject. This volume appears in pursuance of Mr. Asquith's promise given in April this year to Mr. Locker-Lampson and other Unionist members. All the witnesses are represented, with the exception of Sir Henry Robinson, of the Local Government Board, who is understood to have withheld his consent.

The Bill now before Parliament preserves fiscal unity as regards revenue, and attempts to provide for Irish expenditure on the present basis; the Cabinet could not accept the recommendations of the Primrose Committee for the simple reason that Liberals did not intend to give Ireland a full or colonial measure of political autonomy. Certainly the evidence in the earlier part of this blue book—that of public servants, representatives of the Treasury, of the Statistical Office, of Customs and Excise, and of various Irish boards and departments—shows how complicated is the whole question of Irish finance; and the *lacuna* caused by the omission of Sir Henry Robinson's facts and figures is in itself sufficient to prevent the reader from arriving at an independent and definite conclusion. What is the true Irish revenue? No one can tell. The various departments offer only estimates, and their estimates do not correspond. Since the present Bill does not propose to establish a separate Customs and a separate tariff, there seems to be no prospect of a solution of the problem.

The evidence of lay witnesses like Mr. Barbour of the Belfast Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Waldron of the Dublin Stock Exchange, Mr. Ennis of the County Councils, is exceedingly interesting and representative of different Irish points of view. Mr. Barbour admitted that the objection of Ulster to Home Rule was religious rather than economic. Mr. Waldron blamed the English connection, not only for the extravagance of Irish government, but for the extravagance of Irish life! One of the results of Anglicisation has been that in Ireland, a poor agricultural country, "they are all for motor-cars, carriages, and footmen." This witness had evidently read the preface to *John Bull's Other Island*. The Committee seems to have placed great reliance on Professor Kettle's brilliant Nationalist brochure on Irish Finance, with the conclusions of which neither of the Nationalist witnesses would entirely agree. The appendices contain valuable matter regarding financial relations, the calculation of Irish revenue, the expenditure of Irish departments, etc.

In the second valuable document on the same subject we are given figures to show how an Irish Government Budget would have to be balanced in 1912–13 if the financial provisions of the Home Rule Bill were in operation. In an estimate already made in a Command Paper, the expenditure for Irish purposes in 1912 was put at £12,381,500; the revenue from Ireland at £10,850,000; a deficit of £1,531,500; but these new figures, although only approximate, are based on actual net receipts to March 31st last, and the Exchequer issues to that date. Here is an "Irish Budget":

REVENUE.

	£
Transferred sum	5,853,000
Post Office	1,320,000
Irish Fee Stamps	81,000
	£7,254,000

EXPENDITURE.

	£
Cost of Transferred Services (including P.O.)	6,754,000
Surplus	500,000
	£7,254,000

The cost of the reserved services in 1912–13 was £5,383,000, which added to the transferred sum would have brought the Imperial Government's expenditure on the Irish account up to £11,236,000, and left it with a deficit of nearly £2,000,000 when the Post Office and Irish fee stamps had been excluded from the revenue. A slight decrease, however, is shown in the excess of Irish local expenditure over the revenue contributed by Ireland, comparing the estimates with those based on the recent returns.

THE TAXATION OF THE WORKERS

***Some Notes on the Incidence of Taxation on the Working-Class Family.** By F. W. Kolthammer, M.A. Memoranda on Problems of Poverty, No. 1. Published under the Ratan Tata Foundation, London School of Economics.

The Ratan Tata Foundation was instituted recently with the object of promoting the study of poverty, and furthering the knowledge of methods for its prevention and relief. Mr. Kolthammer, in this the first publication of the directors, has treated his subject in a scientific manner, and without any intention of using his conclusions as the text for a sermon. His raw material consists of the annual Statistical Abstracts, the Census returns, the Fiscal Blue Book (Cd. 2337), and a number of working-class family budgets obtained by himself. He admits the limitations of his data, and is careful to insist on their imperfect nature; but as he has preferred to keep on the safe side, his final results are understated rather than exaggerated.

Mr. Kolthammer's conclusions with regard to food taxation are worth stating. In the first place, such taxation is regressive. The smaller incomes pay a disproportionately large percentage. Then, assuming normal consumption, it amounts to 1·25 pence per head per week, or in the case of the average family to 6d. per week. The higher family incomes among the working classes reach this amount; if the family be small, or the number at work large, consumption frequently exceeds the normal. Further, the consumption of taxed foods by middle-class families does not exceed that which obtains in many working-class families; very frequently it is lower. The superiority of their standard of living, so far as food is concerned, depends rather on foods that are not taxed. On the whole, the lower the family income the less the total contribution to national expenditure, but the greater the percentage of income hereby taken. Another point is that the lower the standard of comfort, the larger the percentage of food expenditure which is taxed. When the cheaper jam displaces the dearer butter or margarine, as also when the cheaper condensed milk displaces the dearer cow's milk, a portion of the family income which was before untaxed automatically becomes taxed. It is frequently true that where the contributions in food taxation are abnormally low, the contributions in respect of tobacco and alcohol are abnormally high.

Mr. Kolthammer goes on to consider the case of the working man who is a moderate drinker and smoker. It appears that the man with 18s. a week pays in indirect taxation (on food, alcohol, and tobacco) 7·1 per cent. of his income, whilst the man with £5 a week pays only 1·27 per cent. For food taxes alone the former pays 2·84 per cent. of his income, and the latter ·51 per cent.—both figures, it must be remembered, being well under rather than over the mark. This, however, is not all, for local taxation must be taken into account. Assuming that current expert opinion is correct in placing the burden of local rates mostly, if not in some cases wholly, on the shoulders of the occupiers of houses, Mr. Kolthammer considers that "only a small minority of working-class families in urban districts pay less than 4 per cent. of their income in local rates," many paying 6 per cent., or even more. This excludes any allowance for a part of the shopkeepers' rates, "for part is certainly thrown forward on to consumers generally."

Mr. Kolthammer is quite within his rights in including the compulsory levies under the Insurance Act. In the case of the 18s. a week man, the deduction from income, including sickness insurance contribution, amounts to 9·1 per cent.; the 35s. income pays 4·68 per cent. When a family includes a member who is insured against both sickness and unemployment, the percentage taken from his income by the State amounts, if the family income is 18s., to 10·25 per cent.; if it is 35s., to 5·27 per cent. When we add the 4 per cent. or so paid in local rates, we get a result which must be regarded as a wholesome corrective for the well-to-do who are under the impression that the poor do not pay rates and taxes. No one would wish to relieve any class altogether from bearing a part of the burden; but Mr. Kolthammer has made out a strong case for lightening the burden carried by the poorest section of the community.

THE JURY SYSTEM

Departmental Committee on the Law and Practice with regard to the Constitution, Qualifications, Selection, Summoning, etc., of Juries. Vol. I., Report, Cd. 6817, 6d.; Vol. II., Minutes of Evidence and Appendices, Cd. 6818, 1s. 9d.

"Of all the devices for good government which the genius of the English people has evolved, of all those institutions which they reverence as the chief safeguards of their liberty, none perhaps has been more deeply cherished at home nor more widely imitated abroad than the system now known as Trial by Jury." So, on the first page of their report, say the Commissioners who were appointed by the Home Secretary, with Lord Mersey as chairman, in December, 1911. It must, however, be admitted that the facts concerning the system here collected are rather difficult to square with the pleasant theory of the English genius for evolving devices for good government.

The beginnings of trial by jury are unknown. The Commissioners are only able to say that the system existed in a primitive form at the Norman Conquest and was consciously developed by the Plantagenet lawyers. Much of the jury law now existing is little more than custom. The rest, contained in some thirty statutes (the chief of which is the Act of 1825), is in many respects confused and obscure, and several matters connected with the summoning and service of jurors have never been the subject of formal legislation. The witnesses before the Commission (only 28 in number) were mainly official, and the authors of the minority report call attention to the fact that the evidence of the few outside witnesses was strikingly in conflict with that of the official majority on most points.

Criticisms were offered and amendments suggested in regard to nearly every detail of the jury system; but the majority of the Commissioners do not think this fact sufficient in itself to establish the need for wide and drastic measures of reform. Their chief recommendations are as follows: That the division of juries into special and common be maintained; that trial by jury remain as of right in all criminal cases; in civil cases where the parties to an action agree to such mode of trial, and in cases affecting personal character if demanded by either party; that in all common law actions the Master or Judge shall determine whether the case is one requiring a jury; that the number of the jury continue to be twelve, but that in the event of the death, illness, or other default of any member, the case shall proceed with a jury of 11, and its verdict be accepted as valid; that the jury list be prepared, as at present, by the overseers, and published in post offices and public libraries, as well as on the doors of churches; that notice be given to every citizen the first time his name is included in the list; that the under-sheriff be a permanent official and entrusted with the summoning of all juries except those for coroners' courts; that the panel be formed according to some uniform or mechanical system; that out-of-pocket expenses be paid by the State, from Exchequer grants, according to fixed scales, and the remuneration at present paid by the parties to special jurors remain unaltered.

In their survey of the system the majority discuss all the more important points, and especially the alleged defects in the varieties of procedure; the case for and against the special jury; the undue frequency of summonses, and the proportion of summonses disobeyed, with more or less impunity; the question of the competence of the jury as a means to justice and the alleged deterioration in quality; the possibility of packing a jury under existing conditions; and so forth. The whole discussion is full of matter which should be interesting to every active citizen.

The minority report, signed by Mr. Ellis W. Davies, M.P., Judge Parry, and Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., is a lucid statement of the case for four reforms: the abolition of the special jury; the basing of the jury list on the parliamentary register; the appointment of a permanent official—not a solicitor in private practice—as a summoner of all juries; and selection by some automatic system. The main contention of the minority is that it is not possible to express intelligence in terms of rateable value:

> The greater diffusion of knowledge has widened the area from which intelligent jurors may be drawn, and the increasing desire among the working classes to take their part in all public duties and responsibilities has made it a matter of necessity that they should have no grievance on the ground that they are excluded from juries, who, in a large measure, are concerned with the trial of their class. Whether it be well founded or not, the belief is wide-spread among the working classes that the present jury system does not give a fair chance to their class.

Mr. Rupert Gwynne, M.P., and Mr. English Harrison, K.C., append a memorandum in favour of the retention of trial by jury in all cases as a matter of right.

A YEAR OF ENGLISH EDUCATION

Report of the Board of Education for the Year 1911-12. Cd. 6707. 8½d.

Return for the Year 1911–12 (or for the Year 1910–11, where later figures are not available) Relating to Education in England and Wales. H. of C. 115. 1½d.

The main feature of this volume is a comprehensive survey of problems connected with the passage from the elementary to the secondary school, which enables us to take stock of the progress of the past twenty years in the provision of State-aided Secondary Education. In 1894 the counties and county boroughs of England were providing less than 2,500 scholarships to enable children to receive secondary education. These were held in 355 schools. It is impossible to determine how many of them were attended by ex-elementary school children. In 1900 between 5,000 and 5,500 boys and girls from elementary schools were holding scholarships in secondary schools provided by local authorities. In 1906 the number had risen to 23,500, nearly half of whom were children intending to be teachers. In 1911–12 38,000 scholarships and free places were provided by local education authorities in the 885 schools on the Government-grant list. At least 34,500 of these scholarships and free places were held by children from the public elementary schools. The total number of boys and girls receiving free tuition in the grant-earning Secondary Schools in 1911–12 was 52,500, or just over one-third of their 150,000 pupils. (The excess of this number over the 34,500 free places provided by local education authorities is accounted for by the large number of foundation and other scholarships offered by the governing bodies of endowed schools, and by the trustees of other educational endowments.) Of the 52,500 scholarship children 49,000 had received their previous education at public elementary schools. The large excess which existed in 1900 in the number of boys over the number of girls amongst the holders of scholarships has been redressed. In 1911–12 the boys numbered 27,500 and the girls 25,000.

The mere recital of these figures is sufficient to indicate the remarkable progress of secondary education in England. It is only natural that such a development should have brought many administrative social and pedagogic problems in its train. To begin with, the number of free places is very unequally distributed throughout the country. Westmorland, rich in endowed schools, possesses one free place for every 48 children aged above five in average attendance at the elementary schools. The proportion in Hertfordshire is 1 to 65, in London 1 to 70, in Yorkshire (geographical county) 1 to 73, in Warwickshire 1 to 99, in Lancashire 1 to 114, in Kent 1 to 119, in Durham 1 to 130, and in Oxfordshire 1 to 170. In all urban districts the proportion was 1 to 123, while in all county areas (excluding London) it was 1 to 175. The problem of the distribution of secondary schools leads naturally on to that of the provision of allowances for travelling expenses; 7,000 out of the 12,000 scholarships and free places awarded by local education authorities in 1911–12 carried with them allowances of some sort (amounting in all to £33,000) for travelling expenses, books, etc., in addition to the mere remission of tuition fees. The great mass of authorities provide in addition "maintenance allowances," or boarding allowances, when these are necessary. The age limit for the admission of scholarship children to secondary schools varies from 10 to 14 inclusive; and the decision as to what is the most desirable age limit is a problem fraught with many difficulties, which are sufficiently indicated in the report. Discussions of the methods of selection for scholarship children and the problem of co-ordination between elementary and secondary schools conclude a chapter which no one interested in social progress should lose an opportunity of reading.

A considerable portion of the pages dealing with continued education is devoted to extolling the merits of the "grouped course" system, and urging its adoption by local authorities, which still maintain a laxer system of evening schools. No doubt such a policy is the best which can at the moment be pursued in the interest of the most promising of the 300,000 students in English evening schools aged under seventeen. But one could wish that the Board showed more appreciation of the needs of the large proportion of boys and girls for whom vocational and technical training of any kind can be of no practical service. The subject of the training of both secondary and elementary teachers receives perhaps the most interesting treatment amongst all the many remaining topics dealt with in an eminently readable report.

Figures are given in the return of all the institutions in England and Wales receiving grants from the Board of Education and the Board of Agriculture. In 1911–12 there were 21,267 elementary schools receiving the Board of Education grant, with 6,041,921 scholars on the register. The head teachers numbered 34,559 (men, 14,081; women, 20,478); the assistant teachers (excluding student teachers and pupil teachers), 131,665 (men, 27,326; women, 104,339). The average salaries of head teachers are: Men, £175; women, £122; of full-time assistant certificated teachers: Men, £128; women, £94. Total grants from the Board £11,629,168, as against £12,216,897 from rates and borough funds. The secondary schools receiving the grant numbered 995, with 165,617 pupils; 985 head teachers (men, 652; women, 333). The Board of Education grants for the secondary schools totalled £656,722, with (for Wales only) £25,348 from the Exchequer. The Board of Education grant to technical, art, and evening schools and classes amounted to £587,200. The training colleges received £475,282, the agricultural institutions £18,550; while £324,884 went, from all the departments contributing, to the university colleges. Altogether the grants came to £13,680,073; the total raised for educational purposes from rates and borough funds was £14,190,771; the total received from the Local Taxation Account, £807,260; the total expenditure of the Board of Education on administration, inspection, and examination, £438,368; the total expenditure of local authorities on administration of education, £1,452,751.

OUR UNREFORMED REFORMATORIES

Report of the Departmental Committee on Reformatory and Industrial Schools. Cd. 6838. 1s.

The appointment of a Committee to consider one of the most unsatisfactory sides of our educational system was a welcome step; but it must be frankly admitted that the Committee's report, though in many ways very important, is a most disappointing document—for, to use the phrase applied to those who signed the Majority Report of the Poor Law Commission, its authors, speaking generally, have not got beyond the stage of "fumbling into symptoms."

Originally intended as places for the punishment and detention of juvenile offenders, the reformatory schools have become more and more educational with the passage of time. It is a shock, therefore, to find that the Committee's first recommendation is that a special branch of the Home Office should be appointed to deal with these schools. The suggestion is made that the educational side of their work should be supervised by the Board of Education, questions of buildings, domestic arrangements, medical supervision, finance, etc., being left to the Home Office inspectors. It is satisfactory to notice that Mr. A. A. Allen, Mrs. Winston Churchill, the Hon. J. C. Lyttelton, and Mrs. Bernard Player consider that reformatory and industrial schools should be "handed over to the Board of Education." Mr. Will Crooks urges their transference "wholly to the education authority," and Mr. Whitehouse recommends that they be placed "under the local education authorities." Dual control by two central departments is clearly impracticable and altogether undesirable—a fact which is admitted by Lady Edmund Talbot and Mr. Waller, who prefer control by the Home Office.

The Committee recommends more systematic medical care of children in the schools—which in the past has evidently been, to put it mildly, somewhat neglected. It also suggests that the scholars up to the age of 12 should spend full time in the school, that from 12 to 14 half-time in the schoolroom and half-time in industrial training should be permitted, and that from 14 to 16 further reduction of school hours should be allowed only if other occupations of a genuinely educational character be provided. The Committee would prohibit wood-chopping, paper-bag-making and similar work, and recommends that there should be less tailoring and bootmaking, and more training in the use of simple tools. For girls there should be less household drudgery and more real training of a higher kind. It is noticeable that the authors of the report consider that emigration should be encouraged; also that an effort should be made "to send more boys to skilled industrial occupations and to have them apprenticed," a suggestion which is one form of the "teach every boy a trade" fallacy. Numerous other proposals for improvement are made, all of them useful enough so far as they go.

It is clear, however, that the official inquiry has got nowhere. It would certainly be a step in the right direction if these institutions became really schools and lost altogether their character as semi-penal colonies where children are debased by the horribly mechanical treatment still to be found in some of the institutions. But what the intelligent citizen requires to know is why there are 18,000 juveniles confined in reformatory and industrial schools. It is true that this does not come explicitly into the terms of reference of the inquiry, though that is no reason why the necessity

for the very existence of institutions of this character should not be questioned, as it surely would be if the Committee had got below the surface of things. Mr. J. H. Whitehouse in his memorandum strikes the right note when he says "the problem is in part created by the social conditions existing in these centres (the large towns), and by the prevalence of juvenile street trading" (p. 108). If street trading could be abolished, if every child in the elementary schools could be assured of adequate food, clothing, and the fullest measure of medical treatment; if, in a word, our schools could become real centres of child life; dealing with children as a whole, the 18,000 children now being "reformed" would very rapidly dwindle. The remainder would be those who required careful medical and psychological examination because of some mental defect or abnormality. These children need special treatment, not in dreary reformatories, but in specially-devised home schools. It is much to be regretted that the Committee did not consider the conversion of reformatory schools into institutions of this character intended for abnormal children, leaving the education authority to see that nothing shall be left undone which would reduce to a minimum the number of the "abnormals."

BRITISH TRADE—FOREIGN AND IMPERIAL

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions: 1912. Vol. I. Cd. 6810. 5s. 5d.

This volume of 687 pages contains five years' record of our overseas trade and is in itself a memorial of the complexity of modern life. In it is included almost every conceivable article, from salt, probably the first article of commerce, to aeroplanes, certainly the latest. Every year fresh details are added—the list of the changes for 1912 covers several pages—until now 840 headings are required for imports and 649 for exports. There are three main sets of tables—Imports, Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom, and Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce. These are presented in three forms. First, imports, exports, and re-exports are classed as "food, drink, and tobacco," "raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured," "articles wholly or mainly manufactured," and "miscellaneous and unclassified," and the totals are shown in 35 groups for trade with foreign countries and with British Possessions separately. Secondly, imports, exports, and re-exports are shown separately in alphabetical order, totals only being given, always in value and in quantity where possible. Thirdly, the second group of tables is repeated, but in addition imports from the leading countries of consignment and exports and re-exports to the leading countries of final destination are also given. Separate particulars are given of the deliveries of imported dutiable articles out of bond for home consumption and of the amounts of duty paid. The imports and exports of gold and silver bullion and coin occupy another set of tables, and a detailed index concludes the volume. Volume II., which has still to appear, will classify the trade by countries and also according to ports, and Volume III. will be a classification of the trade for 1908 and previous years on the basis followed in Volumes I. and II. This last volume will be particularly useful, as prior to 1908 imports were shown as from the country from which they came by ship and not as from the country of consignment, and exports were shown as to the country where they were landed and not as to the country of final destination.

There is little room for criticism in the details of this volume, but the Summary Tables 1 to 3 require to be overhauled. It has been repeatedly pointed out that it is unsound to class such goods as pig iron, ingot steel, yarns, and leather as "articles wholly or mainly manufactured," and that a division into "raw materials," "semi-manufactured goods," and "finished goods" is required instead of the present classification of goods other than food, while "food, drink, and tobacco" should be similarly split up. It would also be of great advantage if a summary were prefixed drawing attention to the leading features of the year's trade, to movements of prices, and similar matters. The separate report on "Imports and Exports at Prices of 1900" (Cd. 6782, price 3½d.)—briefly noticed in the first issue of The Blue Book Supplement—ought to have been published with the volume now under notice, and the two should be studied together.

Gross imports for 1912 amounted to £744,641,000, exports to £487,223,000 and re-exports to £111,738,000—in each case the highest figures ever reached. Comparing with 1911 and taking separately the changes in volume and changes in price-level, we get from Cd. 6782 the following analysis of the increase in trade in 1912, figures being shown in millions of pounds:

	Imports.	Exports.	Re-exports.
Due to changes in volume ...	51·3	24·5	7·4
" " price-level ...	13·5	8·8	1·7
Total	64·8	33·3	9·1

Our export trade with British Possessions has risen during the five years 1908–12 from about 33 to about 36 per cent. of our total exports, or a little more rapidly than our trade to foreign countries. Throughout the five years cotton has formed the largest item in our exports, about one-quarter. Exports of iron and steel manufactures, cutlery, tools, machinery, and ships have risen absolutely about one-seventh between 1908 and 1912, but have fallen off about 2½ per cent. in comparison with the total. The gratifying feature about our export trade is the fact that the growth is distributed over all the main groups; electrical goods and apparatus have more than doubled and chemicals have gone up about one-third in the five years, and those are classes in which we are supposed to be behind the foreigner. "Food, drink, and tobacco" and "raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured" constituted throughout the five years about three-fourths of our gross imports, and a close analysis of the remainder would show that the bulk was subjected to further manufacture in the United Kingdom. Taking only one example to show the changes in trade: in 1908 the gross imports of complete motor-cars were 3,830 in number, averaging £363 each, and of these 3,175 came from France and 348 from the United States; in 1912 7,373 vehicles were imported of an average value of £248, and of these only 1,764 came from France and 4,377 from the United States. On the other hand, we more than doubled (4,935 as against 2,135) our imports of motor chassis from France. We are now importing cheap cars, but prefer to build our own bodies for expensive chassis.

HIGH POLITICS AND GERMAN TRADE

Germany: Report for the Year 1912. Diplomatic and Consular Reports, No. 5092, Annual Series. Cd. 6665–50. 3d.

Sir Francis Oppenheimer's annual report on Germany is generally the best of all the long series of consular reports, and this year it is of particular interest in that it displays the influence of high politics on trade. The year 1912 was a year of many records, and taking the consumption of coal—as good a general measure of industrial activity as any—the home consumption went up to 156,000,000 tons as against 144,000,000 in 1911, while the production rose from 160,000,000 to 177,000,000 tons. The railway system was found so insufficient that the Prussian State railways have raised a new loan of £27,000,000; the scarcity of sea-freight accommodation was so great that many large industrial concerns have bought ships of their own. "Manufacturers complained, as usual," says Sir Francis, somewhat cynically, "that the boom was one of production but not of profits," owing to increased costs, the Balkan War, and the money market.

The withdrawal of French loans during the Moroccan crisis was effected with comparative ease, but the period of rapidly developing trade and the good harvest that followed induced a speculative fever, and unprecedented calls were made on the money market. The new issues in the year amounted to £131,000,000, of which nearly £38,000,000 were industrials. The average discount rate in Berlin was 4·95 per cent. as against 3·77 in London. "The German boom was and still is pre-eminently endangered by the condition of the money-market." In the building trade the year was one of crisis, the high bank rate making speculative building impossible, while mortgages were called in. Official attempts were made to reduce reckless grants of credit, and these, of course, caused much individual loss. The international crisis arising out of the Balkan War restricted exports and caused much hoarding of gold, and this withdrawal has affected the money market. Ultimately these sums will return to the market, but "there will ensue a plethora of issues," public and private, and if the bank rate is raised "it is hardly likely that the industrial boom will be able to survive." Some think that the raising of the new levy of £50,000,000 "at present lying idle in small sums scattered all over the Empire" will revivify many industries when spent by the Government. "Thus, while all agree that the immediate outlook, chiefly on account of the German money market, is one of anxiety, some already derive from the additional burdens expected fresh hopes for the future." But, reading between the lines, Sir Francis seems more anxious than hopeful.

THE COST OF LIVING

Royal Commission on the Civil Service. Minutes of Evidence taken 6th March to 14th March, 1913. 9d.

Some very instructive evidence given by Mr. G. Stapylton Barnes, C.B., now Second Secretary to the Board of Trade, is buried in the obscurity of the minutes of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service. It is in the form of a memorandum on the rise in prices presented by him to that Commission. He summarised the position as follows: "Up to 1900, speaking very roughly and generally, there had been falling prices and rising wages, and since 1900 the wages line has been more or less level, while prices as from that date have risen rather sharply." He agreed that "it costs a working-class family now about 10 per cent. more to live than it did ten years ago" as regards expenditure on food. In the memorandum tables are given showing the changes in wholesale and retail prices over a series of years.

Further, he showed that between 1880 and 1900 rents in London had risen by 13·8 per cent., and in 20 large provincial towns by 17·4 per cent., and agreed that, despite a fall in London since 1905, "all rents are higher than they were twenty years ago by about 10 per cent." The fall of rents in London is due to removal from congested into suburban or rural areas, and against it must be set an increased charge for travelling. Since 1905 rents in the inner zone of London have fallen 6 per cent., in the middle zone 4 per cent., and in the outer zone 2 per cent. Birmingham shows no change in rents since 1905, Bristol a rise of 4 per cent., Nottingham a fall of 5 per cent., Coventry a rise of 8 per cent., Chatham and Preston rises of 10 per cent., Bolton a rise of 9 per cent., Macclesfield a rise of 15 per cent., and Burton a fall of 10 per cent. No satisfactory particulars are availabie as to the cost of clothing. The growing discontent he attributed partly to a rise in the standard of comfort. Comparing the decade 1887–1897 with the following ten years, he said: "During the first decade the working man had increasing wages on the one hand and falling prices on the other. The result was that he was able to spread his wings a little more each year. Then came the sudden turn of prices, which, instead of falling, began to rise, and the wages line on the chart continues, more or less, at a level until quite recently." Mr. Barnes did not specifically draw the conclusion, but it is plain that the "discontent" is due to the unwillingness of the worker to be robbed by "economic law" of the scanty addition he had made to his comfort.

Moreover, in reply to questions, he said that he thought that when employees were recruited as self-supporting units, £45 a year for a clerk and £1 a week for a woman typist were "on the small side." He added that, after making inquiries "not only as to what a man could live on, but what was actually being paid by Insurance Companies and Banks, the wage of the lowest grade of clerk in the Labour Exchange Service was fixed at £60, rising by annual increments of £5 to £150 maximum." As a minimum this is about the same as the "docker's tanner." Would it be asking the Government too much to enforce by law throughout the country the minimum which their own officials found to be only £10 beyond what was "on the small side"?

THE LONDON UNEMPLOYED

***Sixth Report upon the Work of the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, from July 1, 1911, to June 30, 1912.** P. S. King. 1s. net.

Although, in point of fact, the present is the most favourable possible time for making experiments of every kind in connection with both the prevention of unemployment and provision for the unemployed, there is no sign that any steps are likely to be taken beyond the Government's Unemployment Insurance scheme. No new developments were made in the work of the C.U.B. during the year ending June, 1912, upon which a somewhat tardy report has appeared. The material for experiment was not wanting, for there were no fewer than 21,000 applicants to the London Distress Committees during the year—representing the population of a fair-size county borough! With the improvement in trade the opportunities for emigration have increased, and over a third of the £110,000 expended by the C.U.B. during the period in question was devoted to enabling 2,000 persons, including 650 children, to emigrate to the colonies. Eighty per cent. of the emigrants went to Australia, which has superseded Canada as the principal outlet for the persons assisted to leave the country by the C.U.B.

The Hollesley Bay Labour Colony was used as a station for testing and instructing over 200 would-be applicants, as well as a means of providing work. Its usefulness in the former direction is especially hampered by the famous four-weeks' limitation imposed by the Local Government Board. The average net cost per week of each of the 1,341 men given work at Hollesley Bay, including payments to dependents, has fallen from £1 11s. 6d. in 1905–7 to £1 6s. 11d. in 1911–12, and is likely to fall still further as the yield of fruit increases

CO-OPERATION AT WORK

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the Year 1911. Part B: Industrial and Provident Societies. H. of C. 123, xiv. of 1913. 2s. 6d.

This report deals mainly with Co-operative Societies, of which in 1911 there were 2,410, showing number of members, sales, expenses, profit and loss, liabilities, and assets of each society; 252 were wholly "productive," 962 wholly "distributive," and 1,122 both "productive" and "distributive," and 74 new societies were not in full operation. The number of members at the close of the year was 2,785,352, and the sales of goods (omitting those of the Wholesale Societies) amounted to £84,152,000. This sum includes some duplication, as the sales of the purely "productive" societies are made mainly to distributive societies. The total amount of production cannot be determined, as the tables do not show separately the value of the production carried on by the mixed societies, but only their total sales. This is a regrettable defect, and if the Registrar had further summarised societies according to their objects his report would have been much more useful. As it is, the student will have to do much extraction and occasional rejection. Profits amounted to £12,020,000, assets to £63,624,000, capital to £37,552,000, and deposits and trade debts to £19,249,000. Particularly interesting is the small group of 11 public-houses in Fifeshire with aggregate sales of £31,670 and profits amounting to £5,966; two others made no returns. It is also of importance to observe that only 284 societies in Great Britain, with a membership of 441,500, did not give credit, but these included some large societies like Rochdale, Oldham, Plymouth, Stratford, etc.

Most clubs are registered under the Friendly Societies Acts, but particulars are here included of 424 registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act. Eighty-four banking, insurance, and loan societies had a membership of 12,272, receipts £575,000, expenditure £562,000, and aggregate profit £17,000. Co-operative banking is still in its infancy, for the Co-operative Insurance Society accounted for over one-third of the receipts and expenditure; the banking business of the Wholesale Society is, however, not included. Land purchase societies to the number of 163 had 21,250 members, and their total receipts were £1,286,631; they purchased land to the value of £408,000. One hundred and ninety-six small holdings and allotments societies had 13,144 members and received over £19,000 rent; they held 8,952 acres of small holdings, 1,172 acres of allotments, and 229 acres of grazing, altogether of an annual value of £16,000. The number of occupying tenants was 8,142. More particulars of these societies would be welcome.

Adding in some miscellaneous societies, the total membership of the above departments of the co-operative movement in 1911 was 2,992,570, and the total assets were £68,089,000.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR TREATIES

***International Association for Labour Legislation.** Report of the British Section for the Year 1912-13. Published by the Association, Queen Anne's Chambers, S.W.; Report of the Seventh General Meeting of the Committee, held at Zurich, September 10th to 12th, 1912. P. S. King & Son. 4s. net.

These two publications trace the progress of the important movement for international treaties to establish a minimum standard in labour legislation. A table appended to the report of the Zurich Congress shows the dates since which various countries have adhered to the two conventions for prohibiting the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches and the employment of women at night. It is important to note that the Viceroy's Council in India has at last passed an Act to prohibit the use of white phosphorus. This will have the effect of excluding from a large market the poisonous matches made by manufacturers in countries (such as Japan) where the social conscience is not yet strong enough to prevent the risk of "phossy jaw" among the wretched operatives in the match factories. The three questions upon which it is hoped to secure further international treaties at an early date are: (1) the night work of boys (a subject discussed in THE BLUE BOOK SUPPLEMENT for May); (2) the ten-hour day for women; and (3) the eight-hour day in continuous industries, and particularly in blast furnaces, rolling mills, steel smelting, and paper mills. In view of the keen international competition in the iron trade between the English, German, Belgian and American firms, the introduction of an international eight-hour day in this industry would be a particularly notable achievement. Unfortunately the British Government has failed to give a strong lead on the question just at the moment when it would have been most effective. This is a concomitant of the neglect of the whole question of factory regulation by the present Government, which, as appears from the Report of the British Section of the International Association, gives little encouragement to proposals of factory reform in any direction.

IRISH EDUCATION

Viceregal Committee of Inquiry into Primary Education (Ireland), 1913. Appendix to the First Report of the Committee: Minutes of Evidence, February 13th-March 12th, 1913. Cd. 6829. 1s. 10d.

Annual Report of the Commissioners of Education in Ireland for the Year 1912. Cd. 6769. 5d.

Among the countless misfortunes suffered by Ireland there has been none more vital than the unfortunate neglect of education in what was, during the so-called Dark Ages, the greatest European home of learning. In Ireland there is no national compulsory system of education. Turning to the General Report of the Irish Census (reviewed in The Blue Book Supplement last month), we find that only 78·9 per cent. of the total population between the ages of 6 and 14 are in any kind of week-day school whatever. Furthermore, 35·4 per cent. attend less than 100 days in the year, 60·2 per cent., or three-fifths, attend less than 150 days, and 92·8 per cent. attend less than 200 days. Where school attendance is not compulsory, the exploitation of child labour in some form or other is likely to be general, except where prohibited by the Factory Acts. It is clear that a committee of inquiry was necessary. In the volume under notice, however, the evidence (given by officials of the National Board) is somewhat technical in character, and not of general interest. One very significant fact which emerges from it is that the relations between the teachers and the inspectorate are not of the happiest kind. The position of the Irish teacher is different from that of his fellow in Great Britain, since in almost all cases he is paid by the State. "For the year 1911 the State grants to teachers amounted to £1,468,868, whereas the local aid amounted to £17,852, or about 1·2 per cent. of the State grant" (p. 129). In addition to fixed salaries the teachers receive a capitation grant of 5s. per annum for each pupil in average attendance (which is much more costly than providing school attendance officers). This central control of the teachers necessitates an elaborate system of inspection—a matter to which a considerable portion of the evidence now to hand is devoted. This again is wasteful, and will naturally tend to overshadow the wider and more important functions of an inspectorate. The general impression conveyed by the volume of evidence is that of an over-centralised system of education treating its teachers none too well.

The Annual Report of the Commissioners of Education in Ireland differs altogether from the reports of the English Board of Education or of the Committee of Council on Education in Scotland. It is largely devoted to a statement of the way in which the Commissioners have administered an endowment fund of £8,277 14s. 5d.! This sum (or, rather, £4,956 18s. 9d. of it) is distributed for educational purposes among certain selected schools giving "intermediate education," upon satisfactory reports by the inspectors (which are set forth in an appendix).

TRAINING OF ELEMENTARY TEACHERS

Board of Education: Regulations for the Training of Teachers for Elementary Schools. (In force from August 1st, 1913.) Cd. 6795. 6d.

It used to be the function of the teachers' training colleges to remedy the omissions of an imperfect education, while at the same time giving professional training. This state of affairs is now gradually passing away. Nearly 40 per cent. of the students entering training colleges continue their education in secondary schools until the age of 17; in the future the proportion will probably increase. The Board of Education, therefore, considers that the need for supplementing the general education of the students—though "it should to some extent continue"—is no longer as urgent as formerly; consequently more time may be allowed for the development of the professional side of the colleges, including the practice of class teaching during training. Under the regulations, students may be admitted to a recognised training college for a two-years' course, which in certain cases may be extended for a third year. Provision is also made for a year's course for certificated teachers who have not been through a training college. Students possessing special qualifications may be admitted to the training departments of university institutions, or to colleges closely connected with a university, for a three-years' or four-years' course. In several of the newer universities Education may now be taken as one of the subjects for a degree, a step which has not only raised the status of Education as a study, but has allowed for its co-ordination with philosophy and other university subjects.

The Board of Education is evidently desirous of improving the efficiency of the training college system along the existing lines. One cannot help feeling, however, that these lines are not well and truly laid, except in so far as the training colleges attached to the universities are concerned. In the university training institutions the students take their place as university undergraduates and participate in the university life. The ordinary teachers' training college, on the other hand, contains a number of people, drawn largely from the same social class, all preparing for the same profession, and subject very often to childish treatment and pettifogging supervision. Their students miss the clash of diverse interests, the congregation of different social classes, and the rich variety of human types which are so valuable a means of education. With a few brilliant exceptions, the training colleges of the country suffer greatly from their exclusiveness and their essentially technical character—evils which the Board of Education can never overcome.

SLEEPING SICKNESS

*** Reports of the Sleeping Sickness Commission of the Royal Society.** No. xiii. Published by H.M. Stationery Office. 2s. 6d.

"One of the greatest administrative problems of modern Africa," writes Dr. H. L. Duke (the author of three-fourths of these pages) concerning the transmission of sleeping sickness, and this admission should be read side by side with the warning of his collaborator, Miss Muriel Robertson: "There seems to be a danger of the biometrical handling of trypanosomiasis falling into the familiar error of regarding the method as an end in itself out of proportion to its value as a means of obtaining information." The papers come direct from the Mpumu laboratory, where elaborate experiments are being conducted with the parasite of sleeping-sickness (*Trypanosome gambiense*) that carry forward considerably the research work of Minchin, Roubaud, Bruce, Kleine and Taute. Infected water-fowls, infected antelopes, and various infected mammals have been observed: no incident, however trifling, has been overlooked in the private life-history of this iniquitous protozoon; the search-light of 3,000 magnifications has been mercilessly applied, and Miss Robertson is now able to follow her parasite intelligently through its endogenous cycle in the vertebrate, and its exogenous career from the gut to the salivary glands of the tsetse fly.

The study of *T. gambiense* forms a valuable basis for all studies of mammalian trypanosomes. Incidentally a camel trypanosome is examined, and the lurid interest of melodrama is thrown across the arrival from British East Africa of a nameless trypanosome from a donkey. Amongst the conclusions established are: (1) the local ruminants form an important reservoir for *T. gambiense*, being proved infective for 22 months after infection, though probably the infectivity gradually diminishes; (2) where both fly (*Glossina morsitans* or *G. palpalis*) and antelope (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) are together in numbers the fly undoubtedly carries *T. gambiense*, which (3) is not fatal to the ruminants themselves; (4) the complete development of the trypanosome in the fly is always in the proboscis or the salivary glands; (5) sex differentiation (as in the malarial parasite) cannot be established. The problems still to be solved include: (1) How soon do the antelopes, if constantly re-infected by the flies, acquire immunity? (2) What is the natural reservoir and the carrier of the fatal cattle parasite (*T. pecorum*)? The snail-slow progress of the modern bacteriologist is in marked contrast with the hasty conclusions of the layman, be he missionary, politician or novelist.

TUBERCULIN TESTS

Final Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the Relations of Human and Animal Tuberculosis. Part II.—Appendix.—Supplemental Volume: Report on Tuberculin Tests. Dr. L. Cobbett and Dr. A. Stanley Griffiths. Cd. 6796. 5s. 7d.

During the sitting of the Royal Commission many tests were carried on at the experimental farms at Stansted, and although these tests are not to be looked upon as the base of the Commission's report, they are considered valuable enough for the results to be included in a supplemental volume. Both normal and experimentally infected oxen (Jersey cattle) were selected, and similarly pigs, goats, horses, monkeys, and lemurs: dogs, cats, rabbits and fowls were tested after artificial infection only. The tuberculin employed was of human and bovine type, and, in a very few cases, avian. The measure of positive tuberculin reaction adopted was a rise of 0·9° Centigrade (1·6° F.) or more above the maximum temperatures of the two days preceding the tuberculin injection.

Drs. Cobbett and Griffiths think that three-hourly records of temperature should be made from the third to the twenty-fourth hour afterwards. In the case of the ox, pig, goat, and horse, tuberculin was found, though not infallible, to be a trustworthy diagnostic test, and therefore of great practical value: in the case of the remaining species investigated it must be considered of little practical value. In addition to these experiments, others were conducted to test the effect of one kind of tuberculin upon an animal suffering from a different type of tubercle, *e.g.*, the effect of mammalian tuberculin upon artificially induced avian tubercle. Still other experiments are recorded during which tuberculin was given by the mouth, or intravenously, or instilled into the conjunctival sac.

THE PRISONS OF SCOTLAND

Annual Report of the Prison Commissions for Scotland for the Year 1912. Cd. 6763. 1s. 1d.

Sixty life stories of male prisoners are condensed in one of the appendices to this report. They are full of puzzlement and instruction for everybody, especially for the social and penal reformer, the teacher, and the clergy. The examples—not selected, but taken in order of admission to jail—are from Barlinnie, and therefore from the Glasgow district. The majority are Roman Catholics, and presumably Irish. Nearly all the prisoners seem to have come of respectable stock; some are described as illiterate, most attended Sunday-school and Church. It is difficult to resist the inference that a few only would ever have been in prison had it not been for casual labour, destitution, and consequent low vitality and drink.

In the year under report the total number of commitments to prison was 48,487, an increase of 1,851 on the previous year. There were more crimes against the person, more cases of cruelty to children (frequently the result of destitution or feeble-mindedness), more cases (172) of ordinary theft and reset; more persons committed for prostitution and brothel keeping, and for indecent assault and immoral traffic. It is distressing, the Commissioners observe, that this rise should accompany the increased prosperity in trade.

A good many suggestions for improvement are made. The Commissioners urge that reasonable time should be given for the payment of fines, and they protest against the imposition of fines far beyond the ability of the prisoner to pay. They report that a shortening has been effected in the time during which prisoners are locked up in their cells in darkness and without employment. They are now kept up till 9 p.m.: "we have been able to increase the hours of associated labour with most beneficial results both as regards the output and profit of the work done"—a case, apparently, of unearned increment to the prison authorities. "Prisoners have now much more time for reading, and the supply of library books has been correspondingly increased"—the quality also, we may be permitted to hope. An increase of staff has allowed of a reduction in the working hours of the warders. The Commissioners suggest a larger use of probation, now hardly resorted to at all. Public interest in the criminal, they remark, appears usually to centre upon one or two points of comparative detail in prison treatment; "there is widespread ignorance as to what actually has been done, and as to the new methods of treatment that have been brought into operation within recent years."

THE SCOTTISH CROFTERS

Report of the Crofters' Commission. Cd. 6788. 2s. 3d.

This, the twenty-fifth and final, report contains an interesting summary of the proceedings of the Commission from the passing of the Crofters' Act in 1886 to March 31st, 1912. They dealt with the "crofting parishes" of the counties of Argyll, Inverness, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland, Caithness, Orkney, and Shetland, and inspected 212,977 acres in individual occupancy and 1,748,357 acres occupied in common. They disposed of 21,621 applications for fair rents, reducing the old rents of £89,502 to £67,496, and cancelling £124,825 of arrears out of a total of £186,110, much of which "consisted of the accumulations of generations." In 4,306 cases they awarded 72,341 acres, mainly pastoral, for enlargement of holdings. They also fixed compensation for permanent improvements, regulated peat-mosses, seaware, common grazings, etc. The committees appointed to regulate the grazings "often allow the masterful among the crofters to overstock the grazings without exacting payment for the excess stock, and thus inflict a serious injury not only on the poorer persons who are understocked, but on the township as a whole"; the Land Court has now obtained power to deal with this evil.

The Commission had no power to form new holdings or to migrate the surplus population from congested districts, and had only limited powers of enlarging holdings. Still, they have no hesitation in affirming that they have left the Highland crofter better than they found him, especially through the security of tenure conferred by the Act. The old black hovels are now being replaced by "smart, tidy cottages," built not out of the produce of the crofts, but by remittances sent by children in the South and abroad; these remittances were sent before, but only since the passing of the Act have they been invested in stone and lime.

The bulk of the blue book is taken up with the details of the proceedings of fifteen months 1911–12, and is not devoid of interest, showing that not only had opposition of landlords to be faced, but that trouble was caused by "strong-headed" applicants who "would not listen to reason." Curious is the case of one island where there was not a lake, river, or burn, but the tenants and their servants were taken bound "to suppress poaching and illicit fishing for salmon, sea-trout, or brown trout."

THE SCOTTISH FISHERIES

Thirty-first Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland, being for the Year 1912. Cd. 6764. 1s. 9d.

Fifteen years ago there were 11,576 vessels engaged in the Scottish fisheries; in 1912 there were 9,290. There we have an index of the rapidity with which the sailing-boats are being transformed into, or superseded by, steam or motor boats. The crews amount in the aggregate to 38,434 persons. The Scottish fisheries and subsidiary industries found employment in 1912 for 90,040 persons. The total value of the year's harvest was £3,588,584, an increase of £528,249 over the preceding year—largely attributable to the herring fishery. The herring catch of the year was a record, as also was the price paid to the fishermen; "several causes combined to maintain the price of Scottish cured herrings on the Continent—their principal market—and this in turn served to ensure a proportionately high price for the raw material." The total export of cured herrings in the year was 1,538,349 barrels, an increase of 30,227. The greater part goes to Germany and Russia. The German ports hitherto have been the principal media of distribution, but they have now been displaced by the Russian, notwithstanding that the Russian duty is 13s. a barrel as against the German 3s. The herring, we are reminded, though counted a plebeian dish, is in substance one of the most tender and delicate. Hence it quickly deteriorates after capture, and hence again the development of the curing industry, which affords employment to a large floating population, chiefly women. These go on from place to place, and when, as not infrequently happens, the normal population of a little borough is increased tenfold the local authorities find their sanitary and moral responsibilities correspondingly multiplied. The number of gutters and packers employed annually is estimated at from 13,000 to 14,000.

We have no space for more than a few facts relating to the other fisheries. For the third year in succession the landings of cod exceeded those of haddocks, and a preponderance of small haddocks in the catches of the North Sea is noted. The take of salmon was 230 tons less than in 1911, but it remains well above the quinquennial average. The ancient whale fishery of Scotland tends to disappear; since 1909 it has declined by 40 per cent. In 1912 the catch was 440. The Scottish fisheries cannot be reckoned a deadly calling. The reported fatalities were 31, eleven less than the total of 1911. Besides a mass of information about every department of the industry, presented in an excellent manner, and detailed reports from all the districts, the report contains a section devoted to the various scientific investigations in progress.

LUNACY IN SCOTLAND

Fifty-fifth Annual Report of the General Board of Commissioners in Lunacy for Scotland. Cd. 6825. 1s. 6d.

On January 1st, 1913, there were in Scotland 19,188 insane persons of whom the Board had official cognisance. The constant demand for additional accommodation for the insane, and the great expenditure involved, cause much misgiving to the public. The Commissioners point out that notwithstanding the utmost simplicity of architecture and economy of management, asylums must always be exceptionally expensive institutions, since their most costly features are indispensable appliances. Reckoned by the annual assessments for lunacy purposes, the total cost, including rent, of pauper lunatics in all district asylums, is £45 14s. 5d.; this figure, though heavy, is much below that of patients in general hospitals. It cannot be too deeply impressed on the public that over-zealous attempts at economy in asylum administration always involve suffering and injury to the patients. The most important means of reducing cost is the transference of unrecovered pauper lunatics from asylums to the care of relatives or selected guardians. This boarding-out system is little used in England, though it works admirably in Scotland and in Belgium. "In the great majority of instances," say the Commissioners, "it means to the patient the difference between an uncongenial and restrained life and one of comparative happiness and freedom"; and he may also become partially self-supporting. Lunatics cannot be boarded out in great towns; but Glasgow finds good homes for its patients in such counties as Argyllshire. In Scotland, and in no other country, every case is under the direct supervision of the central authority. Unfortunately, the percentage of discharges of unrecovered patients has decreased from 4·4 in 1892–1901 to 3·15 in 1902–11, owing perhaps to lack of co-operation between asylum and parochial authorities. The proportion of deaths from phthisis in asylums is more than eight times as high as among the general adult population. The explanation is rather the loss of vitality and resisting-power consequent upon insanity, than anything specially unhealthy in the environment of asylum inmates. Scotland is exceptionally well provided with laboratories for research and investigation of insanity. The central laboratories are supported by voluntary contributions from royal, district and parochial asylums. It is unfortunate that the immensely valuable work of research should rest on so insecure a financial basis.

AN AMERICAN TRUST

*** The International Harvester Co.: Report of the Commissioner of Corporations.** Washington: Government Printing Office. 1913.

The International Harvester Co. was formed in 1902 by the consolidation of the five leading manufacturers of harvesting machines in the United States, making 90 per cent. of the output of grain-binders, 81 per cent. of mowers, and 67 per cent. of rakes. Although profits were large, the union was brought about by the concerted action of the five concerns in order "to get rid of the fierce competition," and the merger was actually organised by Mr. G. W. Perkins, then of J. P. Morgan & Co. The capitalisation was 120,000,000 dollars, half of which represented cash paid in for working capital, but, according to the Commissioner, the property was overvalued by very nearly 18 million dollars. The assets included iron ore, coal, timber, a railway, and a subsidiary steel plant, as well as the machine works. In 1903–4 four other companies competing in harvesting machines and twine were secretly purchased, and in 1904–12 three plants making manure-spreaders, wagons, ploughs, etc., were acquired and selling arrangements made with four other companies manufacturing ploughs, wagons, etc.

In 1904–6 net earnings averaged 6¼ per cent. of the net assets (exclusive of goodwill), but in 1909–11 the average rose to 12½. By 1909 the deficiency in physical assets was replaced by a surplus of 2½ million dollars, raised to 13,000,000 dollars at the end of 1911; in 1910 the capital was raised to 140,000,000 dollars by the distribution of 20,000,000 common stock from surplus. The company now has 87 per cent. of the United States production of binders, 77 per cent. of mowers, 72 per cent. of rakes, 55 per cent. of manure-spreaders, and 43 per cent. of disk harrows, maintaining "a high degree of monopoly in the harvesting machine business proper." The returns on the monopolised lines are very high, moderate prices being sought in pushing the new business.

The prime source of the company's power is the advantage it possesses over independent manufacturers in the volume of its output, whereby its factory costs and general and miscellaneous expenditure are together nearly 24 per cent. lower than those of its rivals. On the other hand, its selling expenses are relatively high, because it maintains a "very elaborate selling organisation, which gives it a strong hold on the trade." Secondly, its "extraordinary financial resources," through its relations with J. P. Morgan & Co. and J. D. Rockefeller, enable it to extend long credit to purchasers, making it difficult for other firms to meet its competition. Up to 1905 it bound retailers not to accept agencies for other makers, and complaints have since been made of attempts to compel exclusive handling of its goods, to force "full lines" of its products on dealers, and to handicap its competitors by distributing its brands among many dealers in a town, so that no agent should handle more than one. Accusations are also made of the fixing of retail prices, of local discrimination in prices, and of misrepresentation of competitors. The Bureau found that most of these charges were well founded, but that nevertheless competitors were not seriously handicapped. New competition "of great significance" has now begun to appear, and certain large makers of ploughs and tillage implements have invaded the sphere of the combination, offering "full lines" of all kinds of farm implements.

RAILWAY STAFFS AND WAGES

Railway Companies (Staff and Wages). H. of C. 116 of 1913. 7½d.

This return shows for each railway company in the United Kingdom the number of staff employed and the amount of salaries and wages respectively in each of six departments in 1911. It should be very useful, but unfortunately the mode of presentment is such as to necessitate almost as much labour on the part of students as on the part of the compilers. No summary is given, and the figures are not shown in tabular form, but in fat paragraphs, making comparison exceedingly toilsome. In fact, it would make excellent raw material to set in a Civil Service examination as an exercise in digesting returns into summaries. If the return is to be continued, it is to be hoped that in future it will be in such a form that the important information it contains will be readily available. One example will show how useful are the facts which may be quarried out of this document. The Great Eastern Railway serves a district almost purely agricultural; the number employed in the ways and works department in the week ended December 9th, 1911, was 5,695, and the amount of wages paid was £7,309, the average per head being 25s. 8d.; the North Eastern Railway, which runs through a strongly industrial area, employed in the same week in the same department 580 men, and paid in wages nearly £1,514, or 52s. 2d. on the average. The London and North Western Railway similarly paid an average of 26s. 8d. per head of 12,438 men in the same department. These figures suggest some differences in classification of employees which ought to be explained.

INDIA

Copy of the Indian Financial Statement and Budget for 1913–14, and Discussions thereon in the Legislative Council of the Governor-General. H. of C. 130. 2s. 6d.

This is the fifth and last financial statement presented by Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson, who leaves India this month. It includes a review of the situation as regards the opium revenue and a statement in reference to the expenditure on New Delhi. The estimated revenue of £79,000,000 for the completed year has been criticised as far below the mark: the corrected figure is £87,000,000, £5,000,000 of the increase being due to opium and railways. The surplus retained is £3,362,000 as against the anticipated surplus of £1,478,000. The estimate for 1913–14 shows an anticipated revenue of 82½ millions and expenditure of 83¾ millions, due to increased expenditure in the provinces on educational and other beneficial services. Military expenditure remains practically unchanged at £21,000,000. Land revenue for the ensuing year is estimated to reach 21½ millions. As to opium, while the revised estimate for last year was £5,000,000, the Finance Member has budgeted for only £1,445,000.

The discussions in the Viceroy's Council illustrate the procedure established under Lord Morley's reforms of 1909. During the second stage of the Budget debate the non-official members move resolutions of amendment to the various sections of the Budget. The official report of the speeches is in effect a record of resolutions rejected or withdrawn.

Home Accounts of the Government of India to 31st March, 1912. H. of C. 112. 6½d.

The total interest on the State railways of India was £8,804,710. Salaries of the Secretary of State, his Council and subordinates at the India Office amounted to £142,644. The expenditure incurred by the India Office in connection with the King's coronation was £2,490; in connection with the Royal visit to India and the Delhi Durbar, £61,475. The year's bill for telegrams was £3,708, for postage £537. The Savarkar extradition case cost £2,304. The scholarships to enable Indians to pursue their education in this country came to £9,060. The insignia of Indian Orders cost £5,689. Pensions to the family of the late Maharaja Duleep Singh of the Punjab amounted to £9,870. Furlough and absentee allowances to the civil services were £424,435. Pensions to retired judges of the Indian High Courts, £32,592.

Tables relating to the Trade of British India with British Possessions and Foreign Countries, 1907–8 to 1911–12. Cd. 6783. 1s. 1d.

The five years' tabular record of Indian oversea trade is remarkable in every respect. The total for the last year is 268½ millions sterling, an increase of nearly 28½ millions as compared with 1911–12. The imports of foreign merchandise reached 107 millions, an increase of 15 millions; the exports were 161 millions, an increase of 13 millions. In 1907–8 for the first time the total of India's foreign trade passed the 200 millions. There was a falling off in the following year, but the upward movement was at once resumed, and it has continued. Imports of piece goods and twist and yarn from the United Kingdom stood at 36 millions, an advance on 1911–12 of 7½ millions. The receipts of sugar rose nearly two millions, the total being 9½ millions. The tables relating to the import of foreign manufactures bring out the continually increasing importance of India as a market for these goods.

THE INSURANCE COMMITTEES

National Health Insurance Commission (England). Constitution of Insurance Committees, 1913. . . Statement . . . of the Numbers of Insured Persons, the Membership of Approved Societies, and the Numbers of Deposit Contributors in Counties and County Boroughs in England. Cd. 6831. 2s. 2d.

This statement has been prepared by the Insurance Commissioners from the returns compiled by the several Insurance Committees, and these were made up from the particulars supplied to them by the Approved Societies of the membership as on October 29th, 1912. A large proportion of the entries on 250 closely-printed pages are in single figures, representing the scattered fragments of the membership of hundreds of Approved Societies in the areas of the different Insurance Committees—a fact which does not diminish our dislike of the enormous amount of clerical work involved in the administration of the Insurance Act. There were considerable variations in the proportions of deposit contributors in the different areas on the date for which the return was made. They numbered only about one-half per cent. of the insured persons in Halifax, slightly more in Huddersfield, about 1 per cent. in the West Riding and the county of Lancaster, in Liverpool, Birkenhead and Bootle; about 2 per cent. in Manchester, Birmingham and Leeds; about 3 per cent. in Newcastle; about 4 per cent. in Hull and Surrey; while in London and Barrow the figure rises to nearly 5 per cent.

XUM

THE EXPORT OF COAL

Tables Giving Details as to Shipments of Coal Abroad, Coastwise, and as Bunkers, from Each Port of the United Kingdom, for Each Quarter of the Years 1911 and 1912. Cd. 6845. 6d.

The total export of coal for the year 1912 from the United Kingdom amounted to 64,444,395 tons, a decrease of 155,000 tons from the previous year. In 1911 the exports per quarter in no case varied from the average by more than 8 per cent. In 1912, however, owing to the coal strike, the exports in the first quarter did not quite amount to 12½ million tons; in the second quarter they were 13,700,000 tons; in the third quarter there was a leap upwards to 19,577,000 tons. The curious system of classification of the countries of consignment makes it impossible to determine from the figures who are our principal customers. Germany and Belgium and the Baltic countries, with various odds and ends, such as Iceland, form one group which purchased in 1912 almost the identical quantity (25,000,000 tons) of the preceding year. While the Mediterranean group of countries, which includes France, remains our principal purchasers (31,000,000 tons), in this case also the difference between the two years is extremely slight. The only other considerable group includes all the South American States on the Atlantic side, and these buy just under 6,000,000 tons annually. We suggest that a table giving coal production, or an estimate, might with advantage be included in future issues of this yearly publication.

COAL-DUST EXPLOSIONS

Fourth Report to the Home Secretary of the Explosions in Mines Committee. Cd. 6791. 8½d.

What is a coal-dust explosion? How does it arise, and how does it develop as it travels along the gallery of a mine? These are the questions which the Home Office Committee has set itself to answer with the help of a series of experiments at the Eskmeals experimental station. At the outset the distinction is stated between inflammation and explosion of coal dust. The view adopted is that an inflammation of coal dust is propagated largely by the burning of gases distilled from the dust, whereas during explosive combustion the portion of each dust particle that aids in propagating the flame is burned as a whole, both the volatile matter and the fired carbon being consumed. The Committee examined the theory, formulated by Mr. W. C. Blackett, of the "pioneering cloud" of dust which, compressed and disturbed in the roadway of a mine, causes in the case of an explosion a cumulative effect on the intensity of the advancing flame. The experiments by which this theory was put to the test, and the progressive development of an explosion recorded, are set forth in this short report and illustrated by diagrams.

POOR LAW COMMISSION—THE LAST VOLUME

Royal Commission on the Poor Laws and Relief of Distress: Appendix Volume 37—General Consolidated Index. Cd. 5443. 8s. 7d.

The publication of the General Consolidated Index concludes the mass of publications which followed the Reports of the Poor Law Commission. The last stone of the structure is a substantial item of 1,086 pages, and is a guide to the most complete survey of social conditions on record, carried out, like the survey, on a practically unprecedented scale. There are, for instance, about sixteen pages of references to trade unions, the references being arranged under general headings as well as under the names of the particular unions. There are seven references to Socialism, such as "Sentiment in favour of, Evanescent nature of," etc. Miss Mary Phillips should be Miss Marion Phillips, and the names of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb are consistently spelt with a reminiscence of New South Wales. It is now more than four years since the Poor Law Commissioners published their Reports, and the number of persons who are still actively interested must be comparatively small. This monumental volume would have been appreciated more if it, and most of the I.–XXXVII. Appendix volumes (which on account of idiosyncrasies in numbering, are fifty in all), had appeared earlier in the day.

GREEK LIFE IN WAR TIME

Diplomatic and Consular Reports. 5065. **Greece.** (Patras.) 2½d.

The report of Mr. Consul F. B. Wood contains a graphic account of how the Greeks of his district (which comprises the whole Morea and two small districts in Northern Greece) took the outbreak of the Balkan War, and its subsequent effects upon their industrial life. The entire male population of all ages between 21 and 38 was mobilised, and the enthusiasm was such that many emigrants actually returned to serve against Turkey. Naturally, an almost complete cessation of trade and business occurred, but the export went on, for the reason that it is almost entirely in foreign hands. It is noted that "all places of amusement have been closed by common consent, and all private parties, dances, etc., put off for a more suitable season."

LIST OF PARLIAMENTARY AND OTHER OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

(RECEIVED SINCE MAY 15, 1913.)

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries.

REPORT BY THE CROFTERS COMMISSION FOR THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 31ST, 1910, TO MARCH 31ST, 1912, TO THE SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND. Cd. 6788. 2s. 3d. (See review, p. 11.)

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FISHERY BOARD FOR SCOTLAND, BEING FOR THE YEAR 1912. Cd. 6764. 1s. 9d. (See review, p. 11.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LAND DIVISION. Proceedings under the Small Holdings and Allotments Acts, 1908 and 1910, and certain other Acts, for the Year 1912. Part II. Cd. 6832. 3d.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE TITHE, COPYHOLD, INCLOSURE, COMMONS, LAND DRAINAGE, AND OTHER ACTS FOR THE YEAR 1912. Cd. 6833. 2½d.

REPORT BY THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES UPON AN APPLICATION FOR A PROVISIONAL ORDER FOR THE REGULATION OF GOSFORD GREEN IN THE PARISHES OF COVENTRY AND ST. MICHAEL WITHOUT, COVENTRY, IN THE COUNTY OF WARWICK. H. of C. 132. 1d.

REPORT BY THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE UPON AN APPLICATION FOR A PROVISIONAL ORDER FOR THE INCLOSURE OF THE COMMON FIELDS IN THE PARISH OF ELMSTONE HARDWICKE IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER. H. of C. 133. ½d.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMMONS—INCLOSURE AND REGULATION. H. of C. 85. 1½d.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE SMALL HOLDINGS AND ALLOTMENTS ACTS, ETC., FOR THE YEAR 1912. Part I.: Small Holdings. Cd. 6770. 5d.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE AS TO BUILDINGS FOR SMALL HOLDINGS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, WITH PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. Cd. 6708. 11s. 3d.

Census and Registration.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911: Ages and Conditions as to Marriage in Administrative Counties, Urban and Rural Districts, and Registration Counties and Districts. Cd. 6610. 4s. 11d. (See review, p. 4.)

RETURN OF THE AREAS, POPULATION, AND VALUATION OF COUNTIES, BURGHS, AND PARISHES IN SCOTLAND. Cd. 6834. 4d.

FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL ON THE BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND DURING THE YEAR 1912. Cd. 6843. 1d.

[Births of the year, 122,716; deaths, 72,337; marriages, 32,510. As compared with the previous year, increases of 905, 611, and 699 respectively. Percentage of illegitimacy, 7.10, a trifle less than the preceding three years.]

Civil Services, Army, and Navy.

CIVIL SERVANTS (RETIREMENT AT THE AGE OF SIXTY-FIVE) COPY OF TREASURY MINUTE, dated April 21st, 1913, stating the Circumstances under which certain Civil Servants have been retained in the Service after they have attained the Age of Sixty-five, and of the Return therein referred to. H. of C. 88. ½d.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE CIVIL SERVICE. Minutes of Evidence taken from Feb. 17th to March 14th, 1913, with Appendices. Two parts, 1s. 6d. and 9d.

Education.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912. Cd. 6707. 8½d. (See review, p. 7.)

EDUCATION (ENGLAND AND WALES) STATISTICS. Return for the year 1911-12 (or for the year 1910-11 where later figures are not available) relating to Education in England and Wales. H. of C. 115. 1½d. (See review, p. 7.)

STATEMENT OF GRANTS AVAILABLE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN AID OF TECHNOLOGICAL AND PROFESSIONAL WORK IN UNIVERSITIES IN ENGLAND AND WALES. Cd. 6794. 1d.

[Some changes have been made this year in the provisions as to the certification of four-year students, but no other changes are notified.]

REPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1912 ON THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, the Geological Museum in Jermyn Street, the Science Museum at South Kensington, and the Work of the Solar Physics Committee. Cd. 6795. 1s.

FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT BY THE ACCOUNTANT FOR SCOTLAND TO THE SCOTCH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Cd. 6801. 10d.

[Total income of the school boards, £4,305,228, of which only £104,977 came from school fees and books, and £19,830 from endowments. The school rate yielded £1,733,116; it varied from 1 1/16d. in Cupar (L) Fife to 6s. 7¾d. in Uig (Ross); in the majority of districts it was 2s. and over.]

BOARD OF EDUCATION: REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1912 ON THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM AND THE BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM. Cd. 6847. 4d.

[Considerable rearrangements are noted in a good many departments. Total number of visitors during the year: 501,689 on free weekdays, 129,954 on students' days, 98,508 on Sundays; total, 730,151.]

Annual Report on the Finances of the University of Glasgow for the year 1911–1912. H. of C. 64. 3½d.

Annual Report on the Finances of the University of Aberdeen for the year 1911–12. H. of C. 44. 5d.

Universities (Scotland) Act, 1889; University Court Ordinance No. XLIV. (Aberdeen No. 6). Institution of Degree in Science in Forestry and Relative Regulations. H. of C. 117. ½d.

Finance and Taxation.

National Debt: Return showing (1) the Aggregate Gross Liabilities of the State as represented by the Nominal Funded Debt, estimated Capital Liability in respect of Terminable Annuities, Unfunded Debt and other Liabilities in respect of Debt, the Estimated Assets and the Exchequer Balances at the close of each Financial Year, from 1835–36 to 1912–13, both inclusive, and (2) the Gross and Net Expenditure charged annually during that period against the Public Revenue on account of the National Debt, and other Payments connected with Capital Liabilities (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper Cd. 6207 of Session 1912). Cd. 6798. 4½d.

Crown's Nominee Account: Abstract Account of the Receipts and Payments of the Treasury Solicitor in the year ended December 31st, 1912, in the Administration of Estates on behalf of the Crown, under the Authority of "The Treasury Solicitor Act, 1876," and Alphabetical List of Intestates' Estates in respect of which Letters of Administration were granted, etc. H. of C. 118. 1d.

Colonial Stock Act, 1900: Copy of Treasury List of Colonial Stocks, etc. H. of C. 91. ½d.

Ireland.

Government of Ireland Bill: Memorandum on Financial Provisions, 1913. Cd. 6844. 1d. (See review, p. 5.)

Minutes of Evidence taken by the Commission on Irish Finance, with Appendices. Cd. 6799. 2s. (See review, p. 5.)

Annual Report of the Commissioners of Education in Ireland for the Year 1912. Cd. 6769. 5d. (See review, p. 10.)

Viceregal Committee of Inquiry into Primary Education (Ireland), 1913, First Report. Cd. 6828. ½d.

[Formal only, announcing the publication of evidence.]

Viceregal Committee of Inquiry into Primary Education (Ireland), 1913: Appendix to the First Report of the Committee, Minutes of Evidence with Appendices, February 13th to March 12th. Cd. 6829. 1s. 10d. (See review, p. 10.)

Census of Ireland, 1911; Supplement to the General Topographical Index of Ireland, containing Territorial Divisions, etc., with Reference Index. Cd. 6756. 4½d.

Return of the Number of Evictions from Agricultural Holdings which have come to the knowledge of the Constabulary, and also of the Number of Tenancies Determined in the Quarter ended March 31st, 1913, etc. Cd. 6811. ½d.

Irish Land Commission: Return of Advances made under the Irish Land Purchase Acts during July, 1912. Cd. 6812. 1s.

Report of Proceedings under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906, and under Part II. of the Weeds and Agricultural Seeds (Ireland) Act, 1909, for the year 1911–12. Cd. 6785. 6d.

[Records the work of the Agricultural Instructors under the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, in their capacity of Official Samplers; also the results, with photographic illustrations, of some calf-feeding experiments, and the testing of seeds.]

National Health Insurance Commission: Regulations and Orders, 16 leaflets.

Imperial and Foreign Affairs.

Reports by His Majesty's Agent and Consul-General on the Finances, Administration, and Condition of Egypt and the Sudan in 1912. Cd. 6682. 7d. (See review, p. 5.)

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Persia [in continuation of "Persia" No. 5, 1912: Cd. 6264]. Cd. 6807. 2s. 9d.

[A large volume of 311 pp., containing dispatches from March 9th, 1912, to Feb. 13th, 1913.]

*Dominion of Canada: Report of the Department of Trade and Commerce for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1912. Parts I., II., and III., Canadian Trade. The Canada Year-Book, 1911. Ottawa: C. H. Parmelee.

Diplomatic and Consular Reports.

Annual Series.—5056, Belgium (Antwerp), 8d.; 5057, Haiti, 3d.; 5058, China (Ichang), 2½d.; 5059, China (Pakhsi), 3d.; 5060, France (St. Pierre and Miquelon), 4d.; 5061, China (Kiungchow), 2½d.; 5062, China (Kinkiang), 3d.: 5063, Portugal (Cape Verde Islands), 3d.; 5064, Mexico (Colina), 3d.; 5065, Greece (Patras), 2½d.; 5066, Dominican Republic, 4½d.; 5067, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 3d.; 5068, United States (San Francisco), 2d.; 5069, Dalmatia, 3d.; 5070, Denmark (St. Thomas and St. Croix), 1d.; 5071, China (Chefoo), 4d.; 5072, Germany (Dresden), 1d.; 5073, Spain (Canary Islands), 2½d.; 5074, Austria-Hungary (Hungary), 2d.; 5075, Mexico (Yucatan), ½d.; 5076, Brazil (Bahie), 2½d.; 5077, France (Brest), 1d.; 5078, Russia (Batoum), 4½d.; 5079, Austria-Hungary (Trieste), 2½d.; 5080, France (Bordeaux), 5½d.; 5081, Norway, 2½d.; 5082, Netherlands (Rotterdam), 2½d.; 5083, Netherlands (Java, Sumatra, etc.), 2½d.; 5084, France (Havre), 5½d.; 5085, Venezuela (Ciudad Bolivar), 2½d.; 5086, Japan (Shimonoseki), 3½d.; 5087, United States (St. Louis), 4½d.; 5088, Persia (Azerbaijan), 2½d.; 5089, United States (Philippine Islands), 3d.; 5090, United States (Philadelphia), 4½d.; 5091, United States (Savannah), 5½d.; 5092, Germany, 3d.; 5093, Persia (Bushire), 4½d.

No. 5092, Germany: Report for the Year 1912 on the Trade of Germany Cd. 6665–50. 3d. (See review, p. 8.)

Africa No. 3 (1913). Further Correspondence Respecting the Affairs of the Congo. (In continuation of Africa No. 1, 1913. Cd. 6606, Cd. 6802. 4½d.

[Dispatches, with reports, etc., from Jan. 22nd to April 17th, 1913.]

Correspondence relating to the Form of Lease of Oil Palm Lands in the Gold Coast Colony. Cd. 6673. 1d.

Colonial Reports—Annual: 754, Cayman Islands (Jamaica), 5d.; 755, Gibraltar, 2½d.

Treaty Series, 1913: No. 6—Agreement between the United Kingdom and Liberia respecting the Navigation of the Manoh River. Cd. 6803. ½d.; No. 7—International Agreement for the Prevention of False Indications of Origin of Goods. Cd. 6804. ½d.; No. 8—International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. Cd. 6805. 2d.

India.

Copy of the Indian Financial Statement and Budget for 1913–14, and Discussions thereon in the Legislative Council of the Governor-General. H. of C. 130. 2s. 6d. (See review, p. 12.)

Estimate of Revenue and Expenditure of the Government of India for the year 1912-13, compared with the results of 1911-12. H. of C. 131. 2d.

[The figures in this return are corrected in the revised estimates given in the annual financial statement.]

Home Accounts of the Government of India. H. of C. 112. 6½d. (See review, p. 12.)

Return showing the Values of the Total Exports from India to each of the Principal Countries of the World, and the Values of the Total Imports into India from the same Places for each of the Indian Financial Years 1890–91, 1900–01, 1911–12. H. of C. 97. ½d.

Labour and Industrial Regulations.

Fourth Report to the Secretary of State for the Home Department of the Explosions in Mines Committee. Cd. 6791. 8½d. (See review, p. 13.)

Return showing the Number of Staff Employed and the Amount of Salaries and Wages, respectively, paid by the several Railway Companies of the United Kingdom in each of the Weeks ended February 11th, May 20th, September 2nd, and December 9th, 1911, in Various Departments. H. of C. 116. 7½d. (See review, p. 12.)

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the Year 1911. Part B: Industrial and Provident Societies. H. of C. 123-xiv. 2s. 6d. (See review, p. 9.)

Statutory Rules and Orders 1913. No. 566. Cinematograph, England. Regulations, dated May 20th, 1913, made by the Secretary of State under the Cinematograph Act, 1909. 1d.

[Regulations in regard to illuminants, especially acetylene.]

Summary of Accidents and Casualties reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies in the United Kingdom during the three months ending December 31st, 1912, together with Reports on Certain Accidents. Cd. 6819. 9½d.

[The record of casualties for the last three months of 1912 is: Killed, 278; injured, 2,356—a decrease as compared with 1911 of 7 killed and an increase of 95 injured. Of the totals, 98 servants of railways or contractors were killed and 1,547 injured.]

Explosion of Four Gun-Cotton Drying Stoves at Factory No. 3, Ayr. Accident No. 97, 1913: Report to the Home Secretary by Major A. Cooper-Key, H.M. Chief Inspector of Explosives. Cd. 6814. 7d.

Explosives at the Cadeby Main Colliery, July 9th, 1912: Report to the Home Secretary by H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines. Cd. 6716. 1s. 10d.

*International Association for Labour Legislation: Report of the British Section for the year 1912–13. Published by the Association, Queen Anne's Chambers, S.W.; Report of the Seventh General Meeting of the Committee, held at Zürich, September, 1912. P. S. King & Son. 4s. net. (See review, p. 9.)

Local Government.

Thames Conservancy: General Report of the proceedings of the Conservators during the year 1912, with a Statement of Accounts. H. of C. 96. 2½d.

XUM

National Insurance and Pensions.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION (ENGLAND) CONSTITUTION OF INSURANCE COMMITTEES, 1913. Appointment by approved Societies under Section 59 (2) proviso (*i*) of the National Insurance Act, 1911, of the Representatives of Insured Persons. Statement (compiled from the Index Registers) of the Numbers of Insured Persons, the Membership of Approved Societies, and the Numbers of Deposit Contributors in Counties and County Boroughs in England. Cd. 6831. 2s. 2d. (See review, p. 12.)

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT. England and Wales: Orders and Provisional Special Orders, 9 leaflets; Regulations and Provisional Regulations, 21 leaflets. Scotland, 7 leaflets.

MERCHANT SEAMEN'S FUND: ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE SEAMEN'S FUND WINDING-UP ACT. From Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st, 1912. H. of C. 147. ½d.

Police, Law, and Crime.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS. Cd. 6838. 1s. (See review, p. 7.)

METROPOLITAN POLICE—1912–1913. Accounts showing the sums received and expended for the purposes of the Metropolitan Police and Police Pension Funds, between April 1st, 1912, and March 31st, 1913. H. of C. 98. 2½d.

[The total cost of the Metropolitan Police for the year ending March 31st, 1913, was £2,920,730, which includes an item of £75,056 for "Extraordinary Expenses incurred in the Pursuit, Apprehension and Conveyance of Prisoners, etc." What constitutes an "extraordinary item"? Is this separate amount an admission that members of the W.S.P.U. are not ordinary criminals, or does it simply mean that the police have to go outside their own ranks for the execution of any particularly enterprising "pursuit, apprehension, etc."? £299,243 of the total cost of the Metropolitan Police represents a payment made into the Police Pension Fund, from which payments were made totalling £587,387. In all, the Metropolitan Police number 20,292, of whom 17,035 are constables receiving from £1 7s. to £1 17s. per week.]

Poor Law.

STATEMENTS OF THE NUMBER OF PAUPERS RELIEVED IN ENGLAND AND WALES (IN CONTINUATION OF PARLIAMENTARY PAPER, No. 517, OF SESSION 1912–13), FOR APRIL, 1913. H. of C. 71-i. 1d.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE POOR LAWS AND RELIEF OF DISTRESS: Appendix, Volume XXXVII.—General Consolidated Index. Cd. 5443. 8s. 7d. (See review, p. 13.)

Public Health.

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY FOR SCOTLAND. Cd. 6825. 1s. 1d. (See review, p. 11.)

FINAL REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE RELATIONS OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL TUBERCULOSIS. Part II. Appendix—Report on Tuberculin Tests. Cd. 6796. 5s. 7d. (See review, p. 10.)

*REPORTS OF THE SLEEPING SICKNESS COMMISSION OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY. No. XIII. 2s. 6d. (See review, p. 10.)

Trade, Commerce, and Navigation.

ACCOUNTS RELATING TO TRADE AND NAVIGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, May, 1913. H. of C. 13-11. 1s. 5d.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS, 1912, COMPARED WITH THE FOUR PRECEDING YEARS. Compiled in the Statistical Office of the Customs and Excise Department. Vol. I. Cd. 6810. 5s. 5d. (See review, p. 8.)

TABLES GIVING DETAILS AS TO SHIPMENTS OF COAL ABROAD, Coastwise, and as Bunkers, from each port of the United Kingdom, for each quarter of the years 1911 and 1912 (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper Cd. 6199 of Session 1912). Cd. 6845. 6d. (See review, p. 13.)

SUEZ CANAL: RETURNS OF SHIPPING AND TONNAGE 1910, 1911, AND 1912. Cd. 6806. 2d.

[In 1870 the net tonnage of the 486 vessels which passed through the Canal was 436,609. In 1912, the vessels numbered 5,373, and the net tonnage was 20,275,120. The share of the United Kingdom last year was: Vessels, 2,658; net tonnage, 10,192,079. Germany comes second, with 407 vessels, net tonnage 1,682,897. Holland is third, about half the amount of Germany.]

FOREIGN TRADE AND COMMERCE: Monthly Accounts, up to April 30th, 1913. H. of C. 12–11. 4½d.

Transport.

LIGHT RAILWAYS ACT, 1896: Report of the Proceedings of the Board of Trade up to December 31st, 1912, and of the Proceedings of the Light Railway Commissioners up to the same date. H. of C. 113. 2d.

PASSENGER MOVEMENT FROM AND TO THE UNITED KINGDOM: Return showing for the month of April, and for the four months ending April, in each of the years 1912 and 1913. Cd. 6701–11. ½d.

RETURN RELATING TO THE RAILWAYS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR THE YEAR 1912 (Preliminary Statement). Cd. 6830. ½d.

[Length of railway lines open, 23,442 miles; authorised capital, £1,410,723,000; total of passengers conveyed, exclusive of season-ticket holders, 1,294,486,000; season-ticket holders, 786,000; gross receipts: passenger traffic, £54,282,000; goods, £64,015,000; working expenditure, £81,174,000; net receipts, £47,394,000.]

Miscellaneous.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED, AGREEMENT; together with the Proceedings of the Committee, and Appendices. H. of C. 152. 6½d.; Evidence, Vol. I., in 5 parts. H. of C. 152. 4s. 8d.

[The Report is dealt with in our editorial columns. The five parts of the first volume of evidence (586 pp.) begins on March 25th, and contains the evidence of Sir Rufus Isaacs, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Herbert Samuel, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Godfrey Isaacs, Mr. Harry Isaacs, Mr. Belloc, Mr. Marconi, Mr. Percy Illingworth, Captain Murray, Mr. Percy Heybourn, and 24 other witnesses—up to June 10th, 1913.]

INDEX AND DIGEST OF EVIDENCE TO THE REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MARCONI'S WIRELESS TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LTD., AGREEMENT, Session 1912. H. of C. 351, 430, 515 and 515–I.

SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPUTY KEEPER OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS. Cd. 6797. 2d.

[The Deputy-Keeper protests against the use by the Royal Commission on Public Records of the word "valueless" as applied to historical documents. He fears that the selection of certain records for consideration by the Committee may be taken to imply a recommendation that they should be destroyed. This, however, is not so; in a great number of cases the Committee has decided in favour of preservation. It is noted that the Welsh records have received from the Commissioners an amount of attention somewhat disproportionate to their number or importance. Particulars are given of the researches carried out during the year in foreign archives. During 1912 the number of registered applications for the production of records, State papers, etc., was 110,123. In the Government Search Room 7,659 documents were issued or inspected, and 15,115 volumes or bundles inspected by readers with special permits to consult such of the archives as are not open to public inspection.]

SPIRIT DUTY: STATEMENT OF THE ESTIMATED EFFECT OF THE INCREASE IN 1909. Cd. 6809. ½d.

[In true consumption there is believed to have been a fall of over 20 per cent. in 1909-10, a slight recovery in 1910-11, a considerable rise (about 3½ per cent.) in 1911-12, and a smaller rise, about 1½ per cent., in 1912-13. At the time when the duty was altered, consumption had been falling for about 10 years, at an average rate of over 2 per cent. per year. It is believed that, if no change had been made in the duty, the fall would have continued in 1909-10 but would almost have ceased in 1910-11, and that in 1911-12 and 1912-13 there would have been a rise, as there has been under existing conditions, since this rise appears to be due to general causes. The estimated decrease in consumption during the four years 1909-10 to 1912-13 is 28,750,000 gallons; the estimated increase of revenue £5,060,000.]

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEE C ON THE EXTENSION OF POLLING HOURS' BILL WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE. H. of C. 144. 1½d.

REPORTS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON PUBLIC PETITIONS, Session 1913, and Appendix.

[The petitions of the session number 147 up to May 27th. The bulk of them (no fewer than 126) were in favour of the Sunday Closing Bill.]

JURY LAW AND PRACTICE: DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE UPON THE LAW AND PRACTICE WITH REGARD TO THE CONSTITUTION, QUALIFICATIONS, SELECTION, SUMMONING, ETC., OF JURIES. Vol. I., Report, Cd. 6817, 6d.; Vol. II., Minutes of Evidence and Appendices, Cd. 6818, 1s. 9d. (See review, p. 6.)

ALIENS ACT, 1905, PART I., A STATEMENT WITH REGARD TO THE EXPULSION OF ALIENS; PART II., SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF H.M. INSPECTOR under the Act for the year 1912. Cd. 6841. 8d.

ULTIMUS HÆRES (SCOTLAND) (ACCOUNT AND LIST OF ESTATES). "Return of Abstract of Receipts and Payments of the King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer in Scotland, in the Year ended the 31st day of December, 1912, in the Administration of Estates and Treasure Trove on behalf of the Crown." "And of Alphabetical List of Estates which fell to the Crown as Ultimus Hæres in Scotland, administered by the King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, in the same Year." H. of C. 141. ½d.

THE REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR UNDER THE INEBRIATES ACTS, 1879 TO 1900, for the year 1911. Cd. 6822. 4d.

[Number of admissions to licensed institutions, 459 (181 men, 228 women). The Act is inapplicable to inebriates who require care and control. The report contains an historical summary of the movement.]

PAPERS RELATING TO THE ENCLOSURES IN REGENT'S PARK. Cd. 6842. 1s. 3d.

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